

My dear Sir

July 25. 1834

In reply to your letter, requesting my attendance at Camden Hill, to witness the performance of the large Equatorial, I beg to remark that I fear there is too prevalent an opinion in the public mind (frequently ill founded) that a volunteer witness, in a cause of this kind, is necessarily prejudiced in favor of the party for whom he appears.

As it is extremely desirable to avoid even a suspicion of this sort in all cases, but more especially in the present one, I beg to state that I should object to the step proposed, unless at the request of both parties to the suit.

Believe me most truly Yours

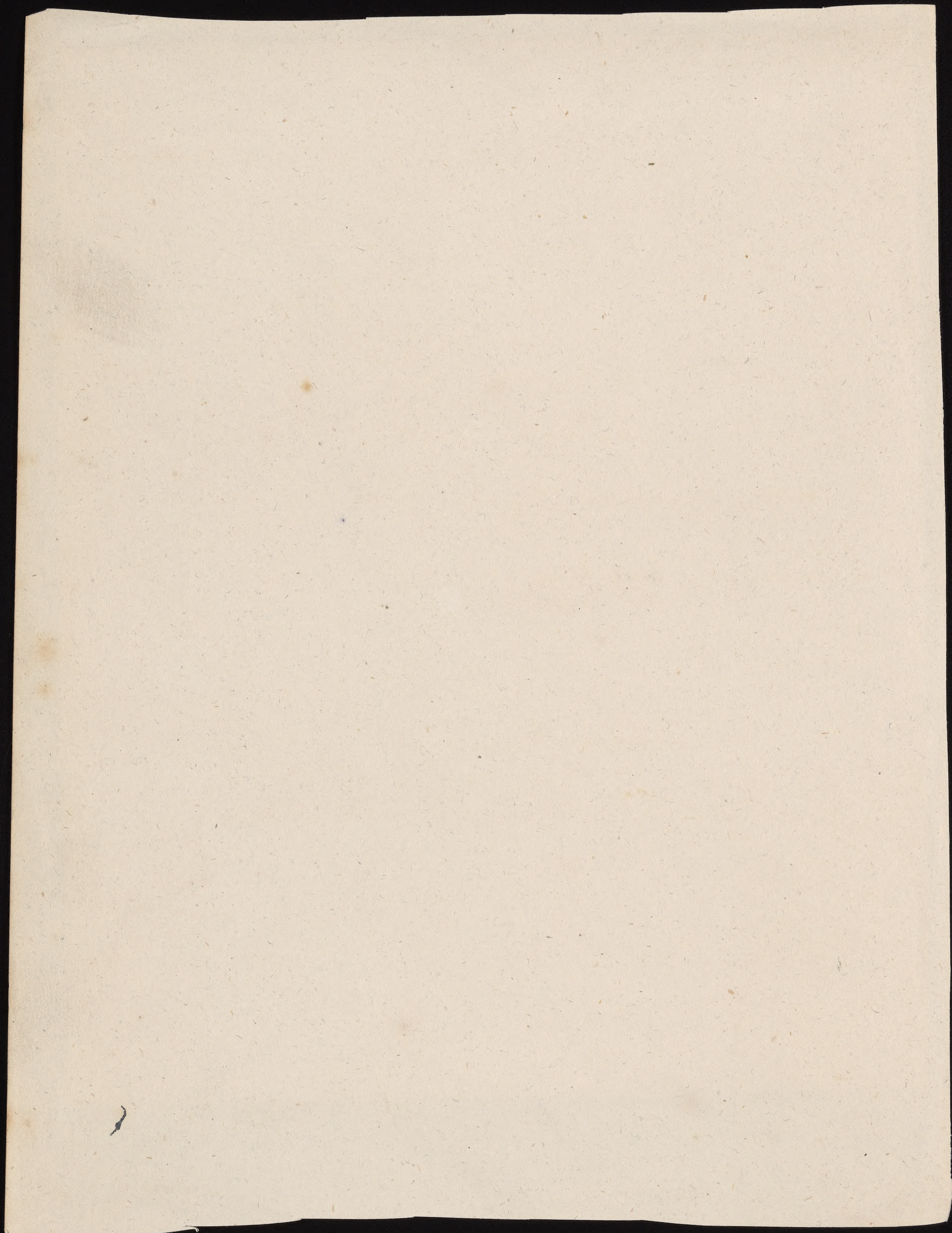
Francis Bailey

Rev. R. Sheepshanks

Francis Bailey.  
Astronomer

1774-1844







BAILY, Francis  
1774-1844  
Astronomer

A. L. S. dated July 25, 1834  
to Rev. R. Sheepshanks

ASTRONOMY

33 ——— BAILY (Francis). 1774-1844. Great Astronomer. One of Founders of Royal Astronomical Society. 1 p., 4to, *July 25, 1834*, to the Rev. R. Sheepshanks who has requested his attendance at Campden Hill "to witness the performance of the large Equatorial." "I fear there is too prevalent an opinion in the public mind . . . that a *volunteer* witness . . . is necessarily prejudiced," therefore, unless asked by both parties, he cannot accept, etc. £2 2s

MYERS 53

(Sheepshanks, Secretary of the Royal Astronomical Society, devised the method of driving an equatorial by clockwork).



LETTER TO REV. R. SHEEPSHANKS WHO HAS  
REQUESTED HIS ATTENDANCE AT CAMPDEN HILL "T  
WITNESS THE PERFORMANCE OF THE LARGE EQUAT

AT IN July 25, 1834 COND.

BY SIZE